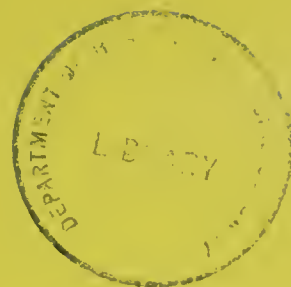


II



URBAN DISTRICT OF ROYTON.

the
Annual Report
of the
Medical Officer of Health
and
Chief Public Health Inspector
for the year **1970**


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ROYTON URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Chairman of the Council, 1969 - 1970

Councillor G.A. Sidgwick B.A.

Health Committee 1969 - 1970

Councillor G.A. Sidgwick B.A. Chairman

Councillor J.A. Crumpton Vice-Chairman

Councillor A. Bannister

" G.L. Buckley T.P.

" J. Crothers J.P.

" G. Day

" J.L. Hartle

" W.F. Helm

" A. Houghton

" K. Moores

" G. Sherratt J.P.

" E. Strivens (Mrs.)

" J. Stubley

" W. Taylor

" J.D. Walker

Medical Officer of Health

Gilbert R. Brackenridge M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.,
Town Hall, Royton.

Telephone No. 061-624-5271

Deputy Medical Officer of Health

Joan M. Curtis, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector

C. Buckley, M.A.P.H.I.

Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector

S.G. Johnston, M.A.P.H.I.
(Appointed January, 1970)

Meat Inspectors

John Salt, M.A.M.I., M.Inst.M., A.R.S.H.

John B. Smith M.A.M.I., M.Inst.M., A.R.S.H.

Smoke Control Officer

J. Spence

Clerk/Typist

Mrs. A. Settle

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
ROYTON.

June, 1971.

To: The Chairman and Members of the
Royton Urban District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Madam, and Gentlemen,

In accordance with paragraph 15(5) of the Public Health Officers Regulations 1959, I submit this, my annual report on the Public Health and allied services in the district for the year ended 31st December, 1970. The general format of the report is as in recent years, with necessary amendments of text and tabular material.

The mid-year estimate of population has increased by 370 to a total of 19,410, nearly 5,000 more than the last full (1961) census. With 418 live births credited to the District, the crude birth rate (21.5) and adjusted rate (24.5) are almost the same as in 1969, and are again substantially above the National rate of 16.0. The proportion of illegitimate births (4.7%) was substantially below the National figure of 8%. There was also an increase in total deaths (227) giving a crude death rate of 11.7 and adjusted rate of 14.6 to compare with a National rate of 11.7. The infant mortality rate, which had risen suddenly and steeply in 1969, fell equally suddenly: the deaths of 8 infants gives an infant mortality rate of 19.0, which is just over the National rate of 18.0. Former members of the Committee will recollect I have always advised against attempting to infer too much from annual variations of this order in successive years in a comparatively small total population. One is rather more interested in general trends over 5-10 year periods.

There was an increase in total notifications of infectious disease to 135. The total of measles cases (its biggest single group) fell and the increase is mainly explained by increased prevalence of dysentery and infective jaundice. The latter disease was fairly prevalent in many parts of South East Lancashire in 1970. I would again not infer too much from the increased number of new Tuberculosis cases notified: the cases were sporadic ones and not inter-connected.

In later sections of the report, members will note that a further 169 new houses were constructed in the District during 1970, 22 properties demolished in confirmed clearance areas or as individually unfit dwellings, and 4 houses closed. The Public Health Inspectorate were engaged in a large scale survey of properties in preparation for a report to the Council on possible Improvement Areas. The Chief Public Health Inspector in his report makes comment upon the temporary set-back in smoke control policies forced upon the District, and many others, in the winter of 1970/71 by reason of an expected shortage of smokeless fuel supplies. Fortunately the mild winter prevented this from being so serious a disruption as had been feared.

The Health Department transferred back into re-constructed office accommodation in the Town Hall in mid-summer of 1970, and I would again thank the Council for making available this compact and well designed suite of offices. It has greatly assisted us in keeping proper liaison with other departments within the Town Hall. Mr. Johnston took up his duties as Deputy Chief Public Health Inspector in January, 1970, and it is pleasing to record that there have been no further staff changes within the Department.

As in the last few years, at the time of writing one can only forecast the future fate of Health Departments as uncertain. Within the past six months it has become clear that a major re-casting of Local Government generally, and Health Service in particular, must be expected within the next 3-4 years. It seems quite certain that the new larger Local Authorities will have at most control of some aspects of present Environmental Health Services, but the Personal Health Services will be operated by autonomous Area Health Authorities. The precise future duties of "Community Physicians" and Public Health Inspectorate are alike indistinct. I can only assure members that the staff, no less than the Council, hope that the continuing uncertainties as to future organisational problem will soon be resolved.

Finally Mr. Chairman, I must make reference to the recent retirement of Mr. A.D. Ogden, Clerk of your Council for so many years. It would be hypocritical to pretend that I always agreed with Mr. Ogden in the management and organisation of the Health Department. However I was, and remain fully conscious that he invariably acted in what he understood to be the best interests of the District, and I must record my gratitude for his help and advice to me over a period of ten years, even if at times I felt unable to accept it. I can only hope that Mr. Ramsden will feel equally free to disagree with my advice when he feels it merits re-appraisal.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Councillors,

Your Obedient Servant,

G.R. BRACKENRIDGE

Medical Officer of Health

General Statistics

Area in Acres		2,149
Population --	Census in 1961	14,476
	Registrar-General Estimate 1970	19,410
Number of inhabited houses at end of 1970.		6,900
Rateable value.		£676,511
Sum represented by penny rate.		2,575 est.

Conditions of Locality

The Urban District Council was constituted in 1894, and took the place of the Local Government Board which had been in existence since 1863. The Council consists of fifteen members; the district being divided into five wards (Dogford, Dryclough, Haggate, Heyside and Thornham), with three Councillors representing each ward.

The District is situated in the south east of Lancashire on the lower slopes of the Pennines, and is bounded upon the north by the County Borough of Rochdale and on the south by the County Borough of Oldham. The eastern boundary adjoins the Urban District of Crompton and to the west lie the Urban District of Chadderton and the Borough of Middleton.

The number of cotton mills has declined and the cotton trade has lost its status as the principal industry in the district. Light engineering in its various forms has now taken precedence.

VITAL STATISTICS

Live Births (Total) 418

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	206	192
Illegitimate	10	10

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population:-

Crude Rate	21.5
Adjusted rate	24.5

Illegitimate live births per cent of total live births	4.7
Stillbirths	7
Stillbirth Rate per 1,000 live and still births	16
Total live and still births	425

Infant Deaths (deaths under 1 year) 8

	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Legitimate	5	3
Illegitimate	-	-

Infant Mortality Rates:-

Total infant deaths per 1,000 total live births	19
Legitimate infant deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	20
Illegitimate infant deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	-
Neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births).....	17
Early neo-natal mortality rate (deaths under 1 week, per 1,000 total live births).....	14
Perinatal mortality rate (stillbirths and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and stillbirths).....	31

Maternal Mortality (including abortion)..... NIL

Maternal Mortality rate per 1,000 live and stillbirths NIL

Total Deaths (All ages) 227

Death Rate per 1,000 population:-

Crude rate	11.7
Adjusted rate	14.6

Principal causes of death:-

1. Diseases of the heart and circulation	64
2. Respiratory diseases	42
3. Cancer (All sites)	40
4. Cerebrovascular disease	38

SYNOPSIS OF CENSUS 1961 RETURNS

- (a) The following table shows the proportion of population falling into major working and dependant groups:

Total Population (both sexes)		14,474	100%
Child Population	Children under school age	1,102	7.5%
	School children aged 5-14	2,132	14.5%
	Total children under 15	3,234	22%
Men 15-64	"Working Population"	4,540	31%
Women	15-44 "Reproductive Pop."	2,780	19%
	Aged 45-60	1,663	11.5%
Elderly Persons	Females 60 and over	1,558	10.5%
	Males 65 and over	669	5%
	Total Pensionable	2,257	15.5%

- (b) The following table shows the households in the district as classified by tenure and the presence of 4 specified "amenities".

	Total Households		5,103	%
Tenure	Owner Occupied		2,778	54%
	Local Authority Owned		844	16.5%
	Rented Unfurnished		1,263	25%
	Other forms of tenure		218	4.5%
Amenities	Without	Cold water tap	14	-
	Exclusive	Hot water system	1,245	24.5%
	use of	Fixed bath	1,889	37%
		Water closet	955*	19%
With all four above amenities			3,120	61%

* In retrospect, the Registrar General's department have admitted this figure may be an under estimate.

Comparative Table of Principal Vital Statistics

		1970	1969	1965	1960	1950
Live Births	No.	418	408	346	241	230
	Adjusted Rate)	24.5	24.4	22.2	17.3	15.4
Stillbirths	No.	7	4	8	4	8
	Rate	16	10	22.6	16.3	15.0
Total live and Stillbirths	No.	425	412	354	245	238
Total Infant deaths	No.	8	15	6	4	8
	Rate	19	37	17.3	16.4	35
Maternal deaths	No.	-	1	-	-	-
	Rate	-	2.4	-	-	-
Total deaths	No.	227	204	196	196	213
	Rate	14.6	10.7	13.2	15.1	15.0

Infant Mortality - 1970

Cause of Death	Under One Day	1 Day to 1 Week	1 Week to 1 Month	1 Month to 1 Year	Total Under 1 Year
Pneumonia	-	1	-	-	1
Cong. Anomalies	1	1	-	-	2
Perinatal mortality	3	1	-	-	4
Other Causes	-	-	-	1	1
Totals	4	3	-	1	8

Deaths by Causation

Causes	M	F	1970 Total
Other Infective and Parasitic Diseases	1	-	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Buccal Cavity etc.	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Oesophagus	-	1	1
Malignant Neoplasm, Stomach	2	4	6
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	2	1	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung, Bronchus	6	2	8
Malignant Neoplasm, Breast	-	3	3
Malignant Neoplasm, Uterus	-	4	4
Malignant Neoplasm, Prostate	1	-	1
Leukaemia	-	1	1
Other Malignant Neoplasms	3	9	12
Diabetes Mellitus	1	2	3
Other Endocrine Etc., Diseases	2	1	3
Anaemias	-	2	2
Other Diseases of Blood etc.,	-	1	1
Mental Disorders	1	-	1
Multiple Sclerosis	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Nervous System	2	1	3
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Disease	-	1	1
Hypertensive Disease	5	3	8
Ischaemic Heart Disease	24	14	38
Other Forms of Heart Disease	5	5	10
Cerebrovascular Disease	16	22	38
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	-	7	7
Influenza	1	1	2
Continued.....			

Deaths by Causation - Continued

Causes	M	F	1970 Total
Pneumonia	9	11	20
Bronchitis and Emphysema	16	2	18
Other Diseases of Respiratory System	-	2	2
Peptic Ulcer	-	1	1
Intestinal Obstruction and Hernia	-	1	1
Other Diseases of Digestive System	1	2	3
Nephritis and Nephrosis	1	-	1
Other Diseases, Genito-Urinary System	2	3	5
Diseases of Musculo-Skeletal System	-	1	1
Congenital Anomalies	1	2	3
Birth Injury, Difficult Labour etc.,	2	-	2
Other Causes of Perinatal Mortality	1	1	2
Symptoms and Ill Defined Conditions	-	2	2
Motor Vehicle Accidents	4	2	6
All Other Accidents	1	-	1
Total All Causes	110	117	227

Deaths - By Age Groups

Years	M	F	1970	1969	1965	1960
Under 1	5	3	8	15	6	4
1 4	-	-	-	-	1	-
5 - 14	1	-	1	-	1	-
15 - 24	4	2	6	3	-	3
25 - 34	2	2	4	1)	2	} 5
35 - 44	1	2	3	3)		
45 - 54	8	10	18	16)	53	} 49
55 - 64	27	17	44	39)		
65 - 74	29	27	56	50	58	55
Over 75	33	54	87	77	75	80
Totals	110	117	227	204	196	196

PREVALENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES - 1970

The full revised list of diseases notifiable to the Medical Officer of Health is now as follows:-

Anthrax	Paratyphoid Fever
Cholera	Plague
Diphtheria	Poliomyelitis (Acute)
Dysentery	Relapsing Fever
Encephalitis (Acute)	Scarlet Fever
Food Poisoning	Smallpox
Infective Jaundice	Tetanus
Leprosy	Tuberculosis
Leptospirosis	Typhoid Fever
Malaria	Typhus
Measles	Whooping Cough
Meningitis (Acute)	Yellow Fever
Opthalmia Neonatorum	

Statistics

The following tables show the number of cases of infectious diseases notified, age groups, and a comparison with notifications in previous years.

Notifiable Diseases	Total Notified Cases in Age Groups										
	Total Cases At All Ages	0+	1+	3+	5+	10+	15+	25+	45+	65 and over	Age not known
Dysentery	17	2	4	5	4	-	-	2	-	-	-
Food Poisoning)	3	-	-	-	2	-	1	-	-	-	-
Infective Jaundice)	15	-	-	3	5	1	3	3	-	-	-
Measles	81	4	25	27	24	1	-	-	-	-	-
Meningitis (Acute)	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	6	-	1	3	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
Tuberculosis	6	-	2	-	1	-	2	1	-	-	-
Whooping Cough)	6	-	3	3	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	135	6	35	41	39	2	6	6	-	-	-

COMPARISON INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Notifiable Diseases	1970	1969	1965	1960
Dysentery	17	1	32	128
Erysipelas	-	-	1	-
Food Poisoning	3	-	-	-
Inf. Jaundice (c)	15	3	-	-
Measles	81	97	70	124
Meningitis (Acute)	1	-	-	-
Poliomyelitis	-	-	-	1
Scarlet Fever	6	7	17	12
Tuberculosis	6	2	5	9
Whooping Cough	6	-	2	49
Totals	135	110	127	323

Reference

(c) Notifiable from 1st June, 1968.

Diphtheria

Although it is now twenty one years since the last case of diphtheria occurred in the district, the occasional small outbreaks reported in the country serve as a reminder that for our present freedom from this disease, we are primarily dependent on the maintenance of a high level of active immunisation in the child population.

Dysentery

There was an increase from 1 to 17 cases in the prevalence of this disease in the district as compared with 1969. This disease is generally recognised to serve as a fairly sensitive index of local standards of food preparation and personal hygiene. Most cases are fortunately mild, but the disease has a considerable nuisance value, and involves Public Health Department staff and the laboratory services in considerable work in collecting and examination of specimens.

Food Poisoning

There were 3 cases notified in the district, but on investigation these were not bacteriologically confirmed.

Measles

This year there was a decrease in the cases of measles from 97 in 1969 to 81 in 1970. The majority were mild and all were in children of pre-school or early school age group.

Poliomyelitis

No case occurred in the district during the year, and even the most convinced critic of immunisation must find it difficult to demonstrate reasons other than large-scale vaccination for the drastic decline in national incidence of this disease in the past 11 years.

Scarlet Fever

6 Cases were notified in the district during the year. Generally speaking the causative organism has lost a good deal of its former virulence, and, being sensitive to a wide range of chemo-therapeutic drugs, the sporadic cases now reported are of a mild character.

Smallpox

There were no cases of this disease during the year. It must be appreciated that the proportion of infants now given routine primary vaccination within the first 2 years of life is totally inadequate to maintain adequate community resistance, and it seems that only by constant vigilance on the part of Port and Airport Health Authorities can occasional outbreaks of this disease in Britain be avoided.

Whooping Cough

6 cases were notified during the year. Assuming that parents of young children are prepared to make use of modern immunological technique, this potentially dangerous infection should never reach major proportions.

TUBERCULOSIS

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1970

Age Periods	NEW CASES				DEATH			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F
Years								
0 - 15	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 - 25	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 - 45	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 - 65	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	2	4	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>		<hr/>	
	6		-		-		-	

The number of cases of tuberculosis remaining on the register at 31st December, 1970 was:-

	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
Respiratory	12	15	27
Non-respiratory	6	-	6
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	18	15	33
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

This represents a net increase of 1 case in the year.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH AND ALLIED SERVICES
FOR THE AREA

The following services are administered by the Lancashire County Council through the No. 14 Health Divisional Office at "Tylon", Middleton Road, Chadderton.

1. Maternity and Child Health Service
2. Midwifery Services
3. Health Visiting Service
4. District Nursing Service
5. Vaccination and Immunisation
6. Ambulance Service
7. "Care" and "After Care" Services
8. Home Help Service
9. Mental Health Service
10. Care of Aged and Handicapped

(Under National Assistance Act)

Clinics

Following its reconstruction in 1968/1969 the Milton Street Clinic is one of the most modern in the district with well fitted examination and treatment rooms. There is a double dental surgery, and a sound-insulated room for special hearing tests.

Regular sessions of the following clinics are held at Milton Street, Royton as follows:-

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| Ante-natal | - Every Wednesday afternoon
at 2.00 p.m. |
| Child Health
and Maternity | - Every Monday and Thursday
at 2.00 p.m. |

Health Visitors and School Nurses

Two full-time and one part-time health visitor/school nurses are now employed together with one school/clinic nurse, all being based at the Milton Street Clinic.

Day Nurseries

There is one 50 place day nursery at Radcliffe Street which is the responsibility of the County Council. There is also one industrial nursery as follows:-

Monarch Mill Day Nursery

Application for admission to the Radcliffe Street Day Nursery, which is open daily from 7.30 a.m. to 5.30 p.m. should be made direct to the matron. Charges are based on an income scale prescribed by the Lancashire County Council.

Unmarried Mothers and Illegitimate Children

Provision for their care is made by the Lancashire County Council in conjunction with Voluntary Moral Welfare Organisations.

Midwifery Service

Three domiciliary midwives serve the district. The ante-natal clinic is held at the school clinic, Milton Street, on Wednesday aftertoon at 2.00 p.m. The midwives are:-

Miss M.L. Buckley,	112 Sherriff St., Rochdale, (Roch.46389)
Mrs. A.A. Cheetham,	Chamber Road, Shaw, (SH9-7301)
Miss A. Turner,	54 Milton Street, Royton. (624-5669)

District Nursing Service

Nursing staff serving the district routinely are:-

Mrs. A. Ball,	13 Skipton Avenue, Chadderton.
Mrs. E. Brock,	2 Dale Square, Royton. (624-6593)
Mrs. M. Clarke,	42 Surrey Ave., High Crompton, (SH9-7618)
Mrs. N. Flynn,	3 Trent Ave., Shaw. (SH9-7268)
Mrs. F. Knight,	52 Richmond Ave., Royton. (624-9062)
Miss S. Todd,	43 Albert Street, Royton. (624-2896)

The services of a male district charge nurse, Mr. C.S. Croasdale, are available for certain cases, and there are also relief nurses serving Royton and adjacent districts.

Vaccination and Immunisation

The present recommended schedule of Immunisation is that all young infants shall be given 3 doses of Diphtheria, Whooping Cough and Tetanus Immunisation, together with 3 doses of oral Poliomyelitis vaccine between 6 and 14 months of age. This is followed by Measles Vaccine and Smallpox Vaccine. Booster doses are given at intervals later. B.C.G. Vaccine (against Tuberculosis) is offered to Tuberculin-negative school children at about 13 years of age.

During 1970, Rubella (German Measles) Vaccine was approved for girls between 11 and 13 years of age. Limited supplies only were available initially, but supplies are now excellent.

Arrangements for such immunisation may be made either to the school clinic or with Local General Practitioners.

Ambulance

The ambulance service is administered by the Health Division No. 14, ambulances being under radio-control from a control centre at Whitefield (766-6666). The district is served by vehicles based on Crompton and Middleton ambulance stations.

Tuberculosis

The Chest Clinic is situated in the Oldham and District General Hospital where all suspected cases of Tuberculosis are referred.

Home Help Service

Home Helps are available for various classes of illness, priority being given to maternity cases, the elderly and infirm. Application for the services of a Home Help should be made to the Divisional Medical Officer.

Welfare Services

Under arrangements made by the Lancashire County Council, residential accommodation for persons in need of care and attention not otherwise available, is now provided at eight Homes for the Elderly controlled by Health Division 14. There is, however, a waiting list for accommodation.

The statutory services comprising health visitors, home nurses, home helps and laundry service, co-operate with the voluntary bodies providing chiropody, home visiting, meals-on-wheels, etc., in order to enable old people to continue to live in their own homes, whenever possible.

CARE OF CHILDREN UNDER THE CHILDRENS ACTS

The work in connection with Infant Life Protection and Adoption of Children is carried out by the Lancashire County Council.

The Area Children's Officer for this district is based at Jowett's Walk, Manchester Road, Ashton-under-Lyne, telephone No. 330-4338/9.

School Health Service

The Divisional Medical Officer and Medical Officer (Departmental) are also School Medical Officers. Clinics are held at Milton Street, Royton as follows:-

Minor Ailments	-	Every Monday and Thursday morning.
*Ophthalmic	-	Alternate Monday mornings.
*Dental	-	Monday afternoon and Tuesday morning, Wednesday afternoon and Friday morning.

* By appointment.

Hospital Service

Hospitals normally utilised by patients from Royton are:-

General and Maternity Cases	-	Oldham and District General Hospital
	-	Oldham Royal Infirmary
Infectious Disease	-	Monsall Hospital, Manchester.

Public Health Department,
Town Hall,
Royton, Lancs.

June, 1971.

Mr. Chairman, Madam, and Gentlemen,

The smoke programme suffered some set backs during the year, in that the No. 6 area was delayed some six months through pressures on the availability of solid smokeless fuels. Again later in the year despite the optimistic information supplied to local authorities, it was found necessary to suspend all our smoke control areas from the 1st December. This was a sad blow to all "clean air minded" people. It will be interesting to see the pollution figures as a result of this temporary reversal of policy. Although it did not stop the conversions to gas or oil, in fact it had the reverse effect.

The Council are to be congratulated in their fervour to complete the smoke control programme on time, notwithstanding the set backs, and in December did agree to submit the No. 7 Smoke Control Area to the Ministry of Environment for confirmation.

During the latter part of the year the Council did agree to the suggestion that the refuse vehicles and drivers should become part of the Health Department. This now gives the refuse service a chance to work as one unit and not, as so often has happened, work as a team with divided loyalties. It was agreed however that the change-over took place in April when winter emergency arrangements would be completed. It is pleasing to place on record the support given to the purchase of a new type of vehicle for authorities of our size, that of the bulk container loader. Although at the time of writing it is a little early to state facts, but the prospect of success with this venture appears promising.

Continued.....

This year found the Council considering another new venture, that of making a General improvement Order. Much work went into the preliminaries of this scheme, part of which included the representation of 71 properties. It is unfortunate that the Council found itself over committed and could not proceed further with this part of the project.

In closing, may I thank Members for their support over the past year. To the staff of the Health Department I record my thanks and appreciation for their services and to Dr. Brackenridge for his help and guidance during the past year.

I am, Mr. Chairman, Madam, and Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

C. BUCKLY

Chief Public Health Inspector

SMOKE CONTROL AREAS

The town now has six confirmed smoke control areas and at the close of the year in question a seventh was being prepared for consideration by the Council. It is pleasing to report this has since received confirmation.

The following table sets out the progress in this field.

Area	No. of Properties	Date of Operation	
1. Flake Lane	334	November	1959
2. Oozewood	268	September	1963
3. Thornham	1100	December	1967
4. R.U.D.C. No. 4 Area	732	November	1968
5. R.U.D.C. No. 5 Area	1459	November	1969
6. R.U.D.C. No. 6 Area	1139	April	1971

It is very pleasing to report that progress has been maintained in this facet of our work despite the set backs referred to earlier.

In order to comply with the Clean Air Act many existing firegrates have to be converted. Grants are available to the owner or tenant of properties needing conversion, totalling 7/10th of the approved costs of the reasonable conversions, 3/10th from the local authority and 4/10th from the Ministry of Housing and Local Government. In areas where a large number of conversions are necessary, this can put a severe strain on the finances of a small authority and it is pleasing to report that since staff increases have been made, the Council have tentatively agreed to consider one area each year and for the programme to be completed within seven years. (1973).

SMOKE CONTROL ACT

In 1969 a fresh look was taken at the remaining areas to be surveyed. The Council accepted a report put before them in which it was proposed that the four remaining areas should be redesigned to form three areas. This was possible because of the experience gained over the past few years since the adoption of the plan to consider one smoke control area each year. It was also necessary because of changes made in the town, principally by the closure of the railway, the track of which originally formed boundaries of two smoke control areas.

ATMOSPHERIC POLLUTION

Measurement

Various methods are available depending on what particular constituent is to be measured. In common with the surrounding districts, Royton is a member of the South East Lancashire and North Cheshire Consultative Committee.

Briefly, the lead peroxide gauge, situated in Royton Park consists of a louvred box containing a material coated with a chemical which reacts with the sulphur dioxide in the atmosphere. The chemical analysis of this instrument is taken monthly. With the volumetric instrument situated in the sewage works, air is drawn through a chemical solution, which retains the sulphur contents of the air.

The quantity of the air passing through the instrument is measured and so a more positive resultant figure is achieved. An attachment is incorporated with this instrument, which filters the air drawn into it, giving what is known as a "smoke stain"; the results of the volumetric apparatus are collated each day.

Individual findings are subject to so many variable factors that a true interpretation of results in any district can only be based on repeated observations at a large number of points over a period of years. Nor can the results in any one district be fairly related to those in another, unless, amongst other things, the siting of the instruments are fully comparable. It is the practice in interpreting the results, to compare summer and winter periods with the like periods.

It has been agreed with Warren Springs Laboratory to change the lead peroxide gauge for a daily volumetric apparatus and as will be seen from the following tables the lead peroxide gauge was discontinued from May, 1970. The new instrument was however installed earlier and so it was possible to obtain figures for the whole of the year.

From the figures shown one can see an appreciable reduction in the atmospheric pollution, and it is pleasing to be able to see such results being achieved. Perhaps what is more important is the fact that members of the general public are becoming more aware of the improvement in the atmosphere.

The following tables show the readings obtained for each month of 1965, 1966, 1967, 1968, 1969 and 1970 from the two instruments located in the district of Royton.

Estimate of Sulphur Dioxide Expressed mgms

Mg. SO₃/day/100 cm² - Batch A.PbO₂

(Louvred Cover)

Site - Royton Park

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1970	2.00	1.50	1.60	1.10	1.00		(Site Discontinued)					
1969	2.1	1.9	2.0	1.2	1.4	0.7	0.6	0.7	1.0	1.4	1.7	1.7
1968	2.27	2.43	1.71	1.39	1.09	0.84	0.78	0.57	0.90	1.4	2.2	2.0
1967	2.69	2.40	1.75	1.28	1.46	0.82	0.78	1.23	0.90	1.5	2.9	1.7
1966	2.74	2.66	1.73	1.95	1.25	1.11	0.58	0.92	1.13	1.59	1.76	1.88
1965	2.73	1.46	2.43	1.50	1.23	1.02	0.85	1.02	1.16	-	-	-

Volumetric Apparatus

Average Sulphur Dioxide Content Measured in
Microgrammes per Cubic Metre

Site - Sewage Works

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov	Dec
1970	105	95	129	77	86	67	61	86	80	91	84	99
1969	123	163	111	80	84	83	78	87	76	-	102	126
1968	117	102	80	115	91	77	87	99	99	101	105	140
1967	137	121	76	59	90	128	94	112	135	125	178	159
1966	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	134	138	94	127

Average Smoke Content
Measured in Microgrammes per Cubic Metre

Site - Sewage Works

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1970	83	48	58	34	24	22	12	26	35	39	28	58
1969	193	184	92	75	49	33	26	43	43	-	72	121
1968	217	109	118	112	97	55	42	46	62	78	137	225
1967	267	145	62	77	61	78	42	57	81	93	296	150
1966	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	142	155	181	176

Site - Public Health Department

Average Sulphur Dioxide Content Measured in
Microgrammes per Cubic Metre

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1970	213	203	224	134	102	76	78	196	117	151	189	285

Average Smoke Content
Measured in Microgrammes per Cubic Metre

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1970	159	157	145	80	52	36	29	48	100	127	155	272

WATER SUPPLY

The Urban District is supplied with water by the West Pennine Water Board from their moorland gathering ground on the Pennine Range to the north east of Oldham. Royton is fed from the Piethorn and Hanging Lees reservoirs and all supplies are treated for pH correction and then chlorinated. The West Pennine Water Board take weekly bacteriological samples from these two sources and in addition chemical samples are taken quarterly. Further samples are taken for bacteriological examination from premises throughout the whole area supplied by the West Pennine Water Board.

The water supply contains natural fluoride in the proportion of 0.1 to 0.3 P.P.M.

During the year there has been several occasions when the inhabitants have experienced receiving a dirty water supply. On these occasions the West Pennine Water Board have been notified and the particular mains have been cleansed.

There are, however, a number of properties in the district which are supplied with water from private wells and springs. These premises, 15 in number, are situated in the more isolated parts of Royton, at Thorp, Royley Clough, and Heyside (Bull Cote Lane.) In the case of supplies from these isolated wells, advice on the usage of the water was given.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE

Sewage is treated at the Council's Sewage Disposal Works at Streetbridge in detritus and precipitation tanks, afterwards passing through the percolating filters to humus tanks and thence the effluent is discharged into the River Irk. Sludge drying beds are provided. The only areas of the district without a proper drainage system are isolated farm communities and a few domestic properties.

Mortuary

In 1965 the existing mortuary was reconstructed and modernised, this included additional facilities necessary in these establishments, i.e. refrigerated cabinets and separate viewing room.

Shortly after this modernisation was completed Crompton Urban District Council requested the opportunity to share the mortuary facilities at Royton. This was agreed and further minor alterations were made.

The capacity of the mortuary sufficient for the needs of the two authorities has been given as six. During the year under review the total number of bodies recorded being received was 61.

Factories

47 inspections were made during the year. These factories were found to comply with the requirements of the Act.

FACTORY ACT INSPECTIONS

1. The Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

PREMISES	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
*(1)	10	4	-	-
*(2)	79	43	1	-
*(3)	-	-	-	-
Total	89	47	1	-

- * (1) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by local authorities.
- * (2) Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the local authority.
- * (3) Other premises in which Section 7 enforced by the local authority (excluding out-workers' premises).

2. OUTWORK

	Section 110			Section 111		
Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Section 110 (1) (C)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions of failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)
<u>Wearing Apparel</u>						
Making etc.	4	-	-	-	-	-
Cleaning and Washing	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	4	-	-	-	-	-

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The cleansing department comprises the following vehicles and personnel:-

- 1 - Dennis Paxit 35 cu. yd.
- 1 - Shelvoke & Drewery 20 cu. yd.
- 1 - Shelvoke & Drewery 18 cu. yd.
- 1 - Shelvoke & Drewery 15 cu. yd.
(for paper collection)
- 1 - Part-time use of 990 tractor.
- 13 - Workmen are engaged as refuse collectors.
including one acting as a tipman and one
as a paper baler.

The drivers of the vehicles were seconded from the Surveyor's Department who have control of the whole of the Transport fleet.

The disposal of refuse has been the subject of many discussions not only from a local point of view but by a joint local authority group. This group engaged the assistance of the Local Government Operational Research Unit to carry out a more detailed study and to prepare possible schemes for future refuse disposal.

This report outlined the present and future trends of refuse collection and disposal and projected costs when it was estimated a plant could be in operation.

The costs apportioned to the authority were considered to be high and there were several matters left inconclusive. Therefore before committing this authority to the additional expence it was decided that the Treasurer should go more deeply into the costing of the whole scheme.

The final meeting of the joint authorities did reveal a majority of members uncertain of their future commitments in this field, therefore a new appraisal of the whole situation is to be undertaken.

During 1969 it was felt the time had come to take urgent steps to find some alternative method for the disposal of household refuse. The tipping area was filling up at an alarming rate and the outcome of the joint authority action could only come to fruition in a minimum of five to six years time.

After many discussions it was agreed with Middleton Corporation that we enter into a contract with them to dispose of our combustible refuse at their new incinerator at a cost of £2.2.0. per ton. The contract was to run in the first instance for a period of 5 years with an option to extend at the end of that time.

Actual disposal at the Middleton plant for 1970 was 4,073 tons, 11 cwts, 1 qrt. of debris delivered to this plant. So far it is fair to say that this co-operation between the authorities has proved of great benefit to both parties and we are indebted to Middleton Corporation for making this agreement.

DUSTBINS

The dustbins are replaced by the Council, the cost being borne by the rate fund. 462 dustbins were supplied during the year under this replacement scheme. In addition, 96 dustbins were sold principally to house-owners in new properties.

PAPER BALING

				<u>Sold For</u>		
				<u>£</u>	<u>s</u>	<u>d</u>
		<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qrs.</u>		
Amount baled during	1966	153	16	2	1230	6 0
"	"	159	2	0	1145	10 6
"	"	163	2	2	1141	17 0
"	"	157	17	2	1302	2 10
"	"	159	3	2	1351	9 9

SCRAP METAL

				<u>Sold For</u>		
				<u>£</u>	<u>s</u>	<u>d</u>
		<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts.</u>	<u>Qrs.</u>		
Amount collected	1966	5	10	0	26	16 0
"	"	8	15	0	35	0 0
"	"	13	11	2	32	0 9
"	"	11	0	3	25	9 1
"	"	11	1	3	41	19 8

CIVIC AMENITIES ACT 1967

With the coming into operation of this new Act, the local authorities were given powers to remove abandoned vehicles and to provide facilities whereby the general public could deposit debris not collected by the accepted refuse collection service. It also provided for the collection by local authorities, of household goods too large or cumbersome for the refuse collection service; this service we have been giving for several years. It is noted that more use was made of this service in that 870 requests were made as against 480 last year.

The records show the following:-

Number of vehicles dealt with by the department during the year	8
Number of requests for removal of additional household goods	870

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION

The following table shows the approximate number of various sanitary conveniences in the district at the end of the year.

CLOSETS

Privy - midden closets	Nil
Pail closets	16
Trough closets	Nil
Waste water closets	Nil
Fresh water closets	7591

It is very pleasing to state that early in the year the last two waste water closets to be in use were converted to fresh water closets.

SHOPS AND OFFICES

194 inspections of shops were made during the year. Although this shows some improvement, I am of the opinion that it is only by the time consuming method of repeated visits and education that much of the improvements will come. Some success is being seen but is so far only in small amounts. No doubt when the new shopping precinct becomes operative this will serve as a boost to the other shopkeepers to uplift their premises.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963

	Class of Premises				
	Offices	Retail Shops	Whole-sale shops ware-houses	Catering Establishments open to public canteens	Fuel Storage Depots
(1.) No. of registered premises at end of year.	8	51	6	14	1
(2.) No. of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year.	8	36	6	14	1
(3.) No. of exemptions at end of year:-					
Space (S.5) (2)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Temperature (S6)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Sanitary Convenience (S9)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL
Washing Facilities (S10)	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL	NIL

SWIMMING BATHS

The baths were extensively reconstructed in 1961-62.

The building now houses one plunge bath, 10 slipper baths, and 2 vapour baths.

The plunge bath is 75 feet long, 27 feet wide and a graduated depth along its length from 3 feet 3 inches to 6 feet 3 inches. The feed water in the plunge bath is supplied from the town's main, and there is a continuous circulation treatment of the water, whilst in use. Water being drawn from the deep end of the bath is chlorinated, filtered, reheated and finally aerated before being returned to the shallow end of the plunge. The time for a complete change of water throughout the circulatory system is $4\frac{1}{2}$ hours.

The temperature of the water in the plunge is maintained at approximately 76°F., and tests to determine the alkalinity or otherwise of the water are taken three or more times daily as the circumstances demand. The figures maintained are:-

	pH value 7.8
	alkalinity 2 p.p. 1,000,000
<u>Chlorine</u>	residual 1 p.p. 1,000,000
	combined 1.5 p.p. 1,000,000

On one side of the entrance hall there are 5 slipper and one vapour bath for men, and on the other side of the hall are 5 slipper baths and one vapour bath for ladies. Sanitary accommodation is provided at suitable positions throughout the building.

The conditions of the baths have been fully satisfactory.

RODENT CONTROL

One trained Rodent Operative is employed part-time on this work. Regular surveys were made and all complaints given prompt attention. All sewers in the district received two treatments in accordance with the methods approved by the responsible Ministry and routine inspections and treatments were made at other Council properties.

The South East Lancashire Advisory Committee meets twice yearly under the auspices of the Divisional Rodent Office, joint action is planned between representatives when necessary.

The following table shows the number of inspections and treatments carried out during the period under review.

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949

- (1) No. of Rodent Operatives employed - (a) Full time - none
 - (b) Part time - one
- (2) Action relating to rodent control during the year.

	Type of Property	
	Non Agricultural	Agricultural
(a) No. of properties in the district.	6882	18
(b) Total number of properties (inc. nearby premises) inspected following notification.	1121	13
(c) No. of (b) infested by:-		
Rats	99	4
Mice	112	NIL
(d) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notified.	123	6
(e) No. of (d) infested by:-		
Rats	11	NIL
Mice	30	NIL

FOOD PREMISES

70 visits were made to food premises during the year. With the constantly recurring emphasis on outbreaks of food poisoning and dysentery, this is not a happy state of affairs. All food premises should be regularly visited as a matter of routine.

The following are the various types of premises in the district where food is prepared or sold.

<u>Type of Business</u>	<u>No.</u>
General grocers and provision dealers	58
Greengrocers and fruiterers	8
Fishmongers	-
Meat shops (Butchers, etc.)	15
Bakers and/or confectioners	12
Fried fish shops	9
Shops selling mainly sugar confectionery, minerals etc.	24
Licenced premises, clubs, canteens, restaurants, etc.,	56
Others	8

Milk Supply

Milk distributors	49
Dealer's licences - pasteurised milk	6
sterilised milk	45
tuberculin tested milk	7
Supplementary licences - pasteurised milk	14
sterilised milk	15
tuberculin tested milk	15

Sampling milk is carried out by Officers of the Lancashire County Council.

BRUCELLOSIS

The animals on one farm became infected with brucellosis and it was necessary to serve notices on the owner of the farm for the pasteurising of infected milk prior to sale to the public.

It is pleasing to report that the farmer gave the fullest co-operation during the sampling of the milk and for this I am sincerely grateful. His readiness to do his best to improve the milk yield and to produce a good quality milk is to be commended.

It is unfortunate that in outbreaks of brucellosis, it results in some of the animals having to go for slaughter prematurely.

BRUCELLOSIS

Total No. of samples Submitted - 24	Results		
	Positive	Negative	No Result
(a) Tuberculosis	NIL	NIL	NIL
(b) Brucellosis "ring test"	2	22	NIL
(c) Brucellosis "culture"	1	1	NIL
(d) Brucellosis "Biological"	NIL	NIL	NIL

SAMPLING FOOD

I am indebted to Dr. C.H.T. Wade, County Medical Officer of Health for the following particulars of samples taken within the district.

A total of 89 samples was obtained comprising 55 milks (12 of which were Channel Islands milk) and 34 others as follows:-

1 Bread	1 Rum
1 Mineral Water	1 Brandy
1 Low Fat Spread	1 Ice Cream Powder
1 Uncooked Meat & Potato Pie	1 Marzipan
1 Bread Fingers	1 Tongue, canned
1 Pastry Mix	1 Cut Mixed Peel
1 Marmalade	1 Whisky Liqueur Chocolates
1 Prunes in Syrup, canned	1 Crumpets
1 Sauce	1 Cress
1 Ham & Tongue Paste	1 Ice-Pops
1 Tomato Juice, canned	1 Bread
1 Plums, bottled	1 Lemon Curd
1 Cream (carton)	1 Glace Cherries
1 Flour Confectionery	2 Soup, canned
3 Whisky	1 Buttered Popcorn
1 Gin	

I give below details of those samples on which the County Analyst gave adverse reports:-

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
Formal Milk	Fat Content 2.95% Fat Deficient 1.6% and low in solids not fat.	Producer informed.
Formal Milk	Fat Content 2.90%. Deficient 3.3%.	Producer informed.
Bread	Contained cotton yarn mixed with dirt (probably from the floor) weighing in all 0.145 gramme.	Baker cautioned.
Flour Confectionery	Contained 0.035 gramme of carbon derived from burnt flour, possibly from a baking tray.	Bakery cautioned and complainant informed.

<u>Sample</u>	<u>Result of Analysis</u>	<u>Action Taken</u>
Informal milk	The bitter flavour in the part bottle of milk was of bacteriological and not chemical origin, and it could be inoculated into sweet milk. The sample was souring however, so the overgrowth of micrococci prevented identification of the taint.	Complainant and Dairy informed.
Lemon Curd	Fat content only 3.6% - The Food Standards (Preserves) Order 1953 requires not less than 4% fat.	Manufacturer advised.
Formal Milk	Contained 0.075 I.U. penicillin per cm ³ .	Producer Cautioned and M.M.B. informed.

UN SOUND FOOD

	<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts</u>	<u>lbs</u>	<u>ozs</u>
Cooked meat and meat products	1	15	37	-
	1	15	37	-

SLAUGHTERHOUSE & MEAT INSPECTION

This is the fifth year a full 100% meat inspection has been carried out and it is pleasing to be able to report this.

The figures in the following table show an increase in the number of animals killed as compared with 1969.

When converted to the unit equivalent it is found that the increase in the overall throughput is from 282,992 to 316,646 units. This can then be calculated to equate the provision of fresh meat for a population of 211,097.

CARCASE AND OFFAL inspected and condemned in whole or part

	Cattle Excl. Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
Number Killed	10,377	2,935	89	56135	23663
Number Inspected	10,377	2,935	89	56135	23663
<u>All diseases except Tuberculosis</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	1	1	1	1	75
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	1292	647	NIL	1217	4144
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci.	12.46%	22%	1.12%	2.17%	17.82%
<u>Tuberculosis only</u>					
Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned.	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u>					
Carcase of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcase submitted to treatment by refrigeration.	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

The following amounts of meat were found to be unfit for food at the slaughterhouses.

		<u>Tons</u>	<u>Cwts</u>	<u>lbs</u>
Other Diseases	- Offal	10	15	30
	Carcase	4	12	3
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		15	7	33
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

The condemned meat is collected and disposed of by an approved trader.

The regulations curtailing the number of hours of slaughter have proved their worth and I think in the main, the trade have realised that it is more economical to concentrate their throughput and not just "red tape" on the part of the local authorities. However there have been occasions when the allotted hours have been extended but as, has been pointed out to the proprietors any increase in their trade beyond the output of their employees would indicate an increase in manpower and not an extension of permitted slaughtering hours.

The hours permitted are as follows:-

Monday		7 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Tuesday	}	
Wednesday		
Thursday		7 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Friday		
Saturday		7 a.m. to 12 noon

One hour to be taken for lunch. The last animal to be killed one hour before finishing time.

HOUSING

Number of New Dwellings Erected During the Year

1. By the local authority	Maisonettes	NIL
	Flats	NIL
2. By other local authorities	Houses	NIL
	Flats	NIL
3. By other bodies or persons	Houses	169
	Flats	NIL

Total number of dwellings owned by any local authority existing in the district at the end of the year. 1249

Inspections of Dwellings During the Year

1. (a)	Total number of dwellings inspected formally or informally for housing defects (under Public Health or Housing Acts).	811
(b)	Number of inspections, formal or informal made for the purpose	1068
(c)	Number of dwellings in (a) above found to be not in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation but capable of being rendered fit.	146
2.	Total number of dwellings existing at the end of the year which were unfit for human habitation and not capable at reasonable expense of being rendered fit and in respect of which:-	
(a)	Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have been made (at any time).	18
(b)	Demolition, Clearance or Closing Orders have not yet been made.	55

Houses Demolished

A.	<u>In or adjoining Clearance Areas</u>	
1.	Houses unfit for human habitation	17
2.	Persons displaced during the year from houses to be demolished or closed.	5
3.	Families displaced during the year from houses to be demolished or closed.	4

B. Not in or Adjoining Clearance Areas

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | As a result of formal or informal procedure under S.16 or S.17 (1), Housing Act 1957. | 5 |
| 2. | Persons displaced during the year from houses to be demolished or closed. | 9 |
| 3. | Families displaced during the year from houses to be demolished or closed. | 3 |

C. Unfit Houses Closed

- | | | |
|----|---|---|
| 1. | As a result of formal or informal procedure under S.16(4) S.17(1) and S.35(1) Housing Act 1957. | 4 |
| 2. | Persons displaced during the year from houses to be closed. | - |
| 3. | Families displaced during the year from houses to be closed. | - |

Unfit Houses Made Fit

- | | | |
|----|---|-----|
| 1. | By owners after informal action by local authority. | 121 |
| 2. | After formal notice under Public Health Acts. | 23 |

* House Purchase and Housing Act 1959 and Housing Act 1961 and 1964 - Standard Grants

<u>Action During the Year</u>	<u>No. of Dwellings or other buildings affected.</u>
-------------------------------	--

- | | | |
|----|---|-----|
| 1. | Application submitted to local authority for improvement to:- | |
| | (a) Full standard | 41 |
| | (b) Reduced standard | - |
| 2. | Total applications approved by local authority for improvement to:- | |
| | (a) Full standard | 37 |
| | (b) Reduced standard | - |
| 3. | Work completed | 37 |
| 4. | Particulars of any action taken relating to compulsory improvement of dwelling. | NIL |

* With regard to the compilation of the figures under this heading, I wish to express my thanks to the Engineer and Surveyor.

